BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) Yes, Sir. Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) suffered a net loss of Rs. 99.32 crores during April-November, 1996 mainly due to substantial fall in LME price of copper, reduction in customs duty on copper and hike in petroleum price and Railway freight in the last Central Budget.

(b) to (e) In view of the loss incurred by the Hindustan Copper Limited, the Company had requested for increase in customs duty on copper and had also asked for Budgetary support for payment of wages and salaries and to meet the Plan expenditure. The matter was taken up by the Ministry of Mines with Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission and a provision of Rs. 13 crores as Budget support has been made to meet the Plan expenditure in the Budget Estimates for 1997-98.

Implementation of Person with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation Act

*213. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1996, has not been implemented as the rules proposed to be made therein have not been notified so far;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether a copy of the Rules made there in are proposed to be laid on the Table of the House;

(d) whether it is proposed to set up a Central Co-ordination Committee for overseeing and monitoring of the implementation of the Act; and

(e) if so, the details of the constitution of the Committee with it's terms and reference?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (c) The persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 has come into force w.e.f. 7.2.96. In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) and (2) of Section 73 of the above Act of the Central Government have framed Rules and notified them vide Gazette of India, Extra-ordinary under Part-II—Section—3—Sub-section (ii) as S.O. No. 908 (E), dated 31.12.96. Copies of the Notification were laid on the Table of House on 24.2.97.

(d) and (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) and (2) of section 3 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (1 of 1966) the Central Government constituted the Central Coordination Committee on 21.2.97 consisting of the following members:

Appointed under clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

1.	Welfare Minister	Chairman (ex-officio)

Appointed under clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

2.	Secretary Ministry of Welfare	Member (ex-officio)
3.	Secretary Depart of Education	Member (ex-officio)
4.	Secretary Department of Women and Child Development	Member (ex-officio)
5.	Secretary Department of Expenditure	Member (ex-officio)
6.	Secretary Department of Personnel and Training	Member (ex-officio)

7.	Secretary Department of Health	Member (ex-officio)
8.	Secretary Department of Rural Development	Member (ex-officio)
9.	Secretary Department of Industrial Development	Member (ex-officio)
10.	Secretary Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment	Member (ex-officio)
11.	Secretary Ministry of Science and Technology	Member (ex-officio)
12.	Secretary Department of Legal Affairs	Member (ex-officio)
13.	Secretary Department of Public Enterprises	Member (ex-officio)

Appointed under clause (e) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

14.	Chairman Railway Board	Member (ex-officio)

Appointed under clause (f) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

15.	Director General Employment and Training	Member (ex-officio)

Appointed under clause (g) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

16.	Director National Council for Educational Research and Training	Member (ex-officio)

Nominated under clause (l) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

17.	Shri Rahul Bajaj, Bajaj Auto Ltd., Akurdi, Pune, Maharashtra.	Member
18.	Maharani Yasho Rajya Lakshmi No. 3, Nayaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.	Member
19.	Rev. J. Kundukulam Bishop of Trissur, Diocese, Bishops House, TRISSUR Kerala.	Member

Appointed under Clause (j) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

20.	Director National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun (Uttar Pradsh)	Member (ex-officio)
21.	Director National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	Member (ex-officio)
22.	Director, National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta (West Bengal)	Member (ex-officio)
23.	Director, Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai (Maharashtra)	Member (ex-officio)

Nominated under clause (k) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

24.	Commissioner & Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Government of Assam, Dispur-Guwahati.	Member
25.	Secretary, Women & Child Developoment Department Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.	Member

26.	Secretary, Handicapped Welfare Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow.	Member
27.	Secretary (Welfare), Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration, Port Blair.	Member

Nominated under clause (l) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

28.	Dr. Onkar Sharma, General Secretary All India Federation of the Deaf, New Delhi.	Member
29.	Dr. Indarjit Kaur President, Bhagat Puran Singh Pingalwara, Society, Amritsar.	Member
30.	Smt. Mera Kumar, Member of Parliament, 6, Krishna Menon Marg, New Delhi.	Member
31.	Smt. Abha Singh, W-23, Greater Kailash, New Delhi.	Member
32.	Shri Akhil Gautam, Journalist, 286, Section-16-A, Chandigarh.	Member

Appointed under Clause (m) of sub-section (2) of section 3:

33.	Joint Secretary (Handicapped Welfare) Ministry of Welfare	Member Secretary (ex-officio)

Subject to the provisions of this Act, the function of the Central Coordination Committee shall be to serve as the national focal point on disability matters and facilitate the continuous evolution of a comprehensive policy towards solving the problems faced by persons with disabilities.

The Central Coordination Committee may perform all or any of the following functions, namely:—

(a) review and coordinate the activities of all the Department of Government and other Governmental and non-Governmental Organisations which are dealing with matters relating to persons with disabilities;

(b) develop a national policy to address issues faced by persons with disabilities;

(c) advise the Central Government on the formulation of policies, programmes, legislation and projects with respect to disability;

(d) take up the cause of persons with disabilities with the concerned authorities and the international organisations with a view to provide for schemes and projects for the disabled in the national plans and other programmes and policies evolved by the international agencies;

(e) review in consultation with the donor agencies their funding policies from the perspective of their impact on persons with disabilities;

(f) take such other steps to ensure barrier free environment in public places, work places, public utilities, schools and other institutions;

(g) monitor and evaluate the impact of policies and programmes designed for achieving equality and full participation of persons with disabilities;

(h) to perform such other functions as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

Trade with Russia

*214. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are committed to promote trade with Russia attaching great importance to developing trade and economic cooperation;

(b) if so, details thereof with measures taken in this regard;

(c) whether some Indian delegation